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City of Barrie

Final - Final

Communities in Bloom Committee

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 | **4:00 PM** | **Huronia Room B**

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE REPORT
For consideration by the Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee on April 17, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Councillor, AM. Kungl at 4:08p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 6 - Councillor A.M. Kungl
K. Bagnell
D. Brooke-Bagnell
K. Patterson-McGrath
D. Ramsay
V. Watts

STAFF:
Horticulture Foreperson, M. Boyd
Legislative Coordinator, T. Maynard.

The Communities in Bloom Committee met and reports as follows:

2024 COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM PROGRAM

Mona Boyd, Horticulture Foreperson provided an update concerning the 2024 Communities in Bloom Program (CIB), including colour theme of orange. Ms. Boyd stated that she is still waiting on confirmation from Communities in Bloom concerning the dates of visit for the judges, and that she will provide an update at the next meeting.

The Committee discussed the Bloomers program for children ages six to fourteen and incorporating schools into this program.

The Committee provided ideas for the 2024 CIB programs such as the following:

- Information on Barrie as a Bird Friendly City, and Barrie's Bird;
- Information on electric buses;
- Showcasing the Nine Mile Portage and Heritage Barrie Awards;
- Information on transit passes for seniors and License 2 Ride and incentivizing ridership;
- Creating an inventory list of stakeholders for the program;
- Gift ideas for the participants of the program;
- Participation by the stakeholders and community organizations including the Heritage Barrie Committee in the program; and
- Indigenous education about Allandale Station and partners.

Vandita Watts presented a list of recommendations that she compiled from the 2023 CIB evaluation form, and the Committee discussed and provided feedback. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Vandita Watts and Kelly Patterson McGrath provided an overview of the Winter Sowing for Native Seeds recently held in February 2024 for students in grades 4 to 6. Ms. Patterson McGrath advised that the event provided a great opportunity for the Committee to engage with the City's youth and community about native species plants and the Communities in Bloom Program.

Ms. Watts advised that she has received an interest from a few local schools who may be interested in registering for the 2024 Communities in Bloom Program.

Ms. Patterson McGrath discussed the following upcoming events:

- Pollinate Barrie and Living Green - Native Trees and Plant Sale scheduled for May 24 to May 25, 2024.

- Healthy Yards Workshop scheduled for April 25, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

CHAIRMAN